

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-03

PRS-01 USIA-15 AID-20 IGA-02 EB-11 CU-04 RSR-01 /089 W

----- 003909

R 031750Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL CALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 781

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS CALI 0230

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJ: FINANCIAL CRISIS UNIVERSITY DEL VALLE

REF: CALI'S 214 OF JULY 25/73 AND A-20 OF JUNE 19, 1973.

1. UNIVERSITY OF VALLE CONTINUES CLOSED AS CONCERNED PARTIES STRUGGLE RESOLVE FINANCIAL CRISIS. URGENT NEED 31 MILLION PESOS COVER CURRENT/PAST DEFICITS. ADDITIONAL PRESSURE ON GOVERNMENT CREATED BY STRIKE (SINDICATO DE TRABAJADORES DE LA UNIVERSIDAD DEL VALLE) BEGUN JULY 30 PROTESTING BAK WAGES. TODAY'S PAPERS CARRIED OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT PASTRNA FROM HUMANITIES FACULTY EXPRESSING ATONISHMENT AT HOW LITTLE THE UNIVERSITY MEANT TO THE GOVERNMENT AND NOTING BITTERLY THAT THE UNIVERSITY'S TROUBLED STATE REFLECTS TROUBLED CONDITION OF THE COUNTRY AND COLOMBIAN SOCIETY.

2. GOVERNOR MARINO RENJIFO RETURNED YESTERDAY FROM TWO DAY VISIT BOGOTA WHERE ACCORDING TO HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY (DR. RODRIGO RIVERA) DISCUSSED UNIVERSITY'S PROBLEMS WITH PRESIDENT AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION. ACCORDING RIVERA, GOVERNOR MET LAST NIGHT AND WILL MEET GAIN THIS P.M. WITH UNIVERSITY DIRECTIVE COUNCIL WITH ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE OPENING OF UNIVERSITY FOR REGISTRATIONS IMMINENT.

3. ADMINISTRATOR UNIVERSITY INFORMS US GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED COVER 4.6 MILLION PESOS FOR JULY, 15 MILLION PESOS FOR AUGUST
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WITH COMMITMENT FOR ADDITIONAL 30 MILLIONS REST ACADEMIC YEAR.

THIS WOULD COVER OOPERATING EXPENSES.

4. COMMENT: IT UNLIKELY DELAY IN OPENING WILL CONTINUE MUCH
LONGER AS FACULTIES SALARIES AND EMPLOYEES WAGES CONTINUE
WITH OR WITHOUT STUDENTS.

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